

THREE COUNT[®]

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WWF HIT BY SEX CHARGES

By ALEX MARVEZ
Three Count Editor

The World Wrestling Federation finds itself reeling after charges of sexual harassment—toward minors and adults—and allegations of anabolic steroid use by Hulk Hogan garnered national attention by the mainstream media.

Charges of sexual abuse of former WWF teenage ringboys—written about by Phil Mushnick February 26 in the *New York Post*—received national play in the *San Diego Union-Tribune*, *Los Angeles Times*, *People* and on television talk shows *Entertainment Tonight*, *Donahue* and *Larry King Live*. The allegations also forced the resignations March 2 of WWF employees Pat Patterson and Terry Garvin, both vital parts of the WWF's match-making braintrust, and the suspension of Mel Phillips.

The following is a chronology of almost all the newspaper articles and television shows concerning the issue:

- *New York Post* (March 4): The first mainstream article reporting the resignations of Patterson and Garvin, written by Mushnick. The three-paragraph note, the second item of his column, quoted WWF owner Vince McMahon as saying both employees tendered their resignations with no admissions of any wrongdoing, but rather out of loyalty to the company because of the "unfair innuendo" it was drawing the company.

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Hulk Hogan, shown posing in a 1989 photo, was accused of using anabolic steroids by ex-WWF wrestlers in a March 12 *Los Angeles Times* story.

- *San Diego Union-Tribune* (March 11): The first in-depth description of the homosexual allegations. Most shocking were revelations by Tom Cole and Chris Loss, two former WWF ringboys. Cole, now 20, joined the WWF when he was 13 years old, and said that while on tour with the group, an unidentified WWF employee would film him with a video camera while fondling his feet and masturbating. "He had a foot fetish," said Cole, who is expected to

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Crockett released by WCW

By ALEX MARVEZ
Three Count Editor

Jim Crockett was relieved of his duties as World Championship Wrestling's building coordinator March 17, ending his active relationship with the company he sold to Turner Broadcasting in 1988.

WCW executive vice-president Kip Frey told *Three Count* Crockett was fired for "philosophical differences." A WCW source said Crockett was constantly bickering with people in the office because of

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Briefly...

- **Ferrigno leaves WBF:** Lou Ferrigno, the body-builder best known for portraying the role of *The Incredible Hulk* on the television show of the same name, has left Vince McMahon's World Body-building Federation. Ferrigno was to have headlined the WBF's June 13 pay-per-view show, and was slated to referee the *Hulk Hogan-Sid Justice* match April 5 at *Wrestlemania VIII*. WWF spokesman Steve Planamenta called it a "mutual parting of the ways," but it is rumored the WWF was looking to unload Ferrigno's \$750,000-\$780,000 annual salary.

- **L.O.D. will stay:** The Legion of Doom will return to the WWF after *Wrestlemania VIII* and likely feud with *Money Inc.* (Ted DiBiase-Irwin R. Shyster).

- **Badd to stay:** Johnny B. Badd ended his contract dispute with WCW and signed a two-year deal worth a reported \$156,000

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Wrestlers tell of sexual harassment

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file a lawsuit against the WWF this week in New York Federal Court. "He would play with all the young boys' feet for hours at a time."

Cole's accusations were backed by Loss, a former WWF ringboy in the WWF in 1989. Quoting from the article: "(Loss) said in an interview that the WWF employee cited by Cole stepped on his foot upon meeting him, and when Loss said his foot hurt, the employee removed the boy's shoe and began rubbing. 'Boys are getting propositioned and played with all the time,' Loss said. 'You sort of put up with it because you can make a lot of money.'

"Cole said he was harassed by several WWF employees. He said he was grabbed in the genitals numerous times by another top WWF official, but never said anything because he was scared. Cole said the sexual harassment continued until he was fired in February 1990 after rebuffing an advance by still another WWF official."

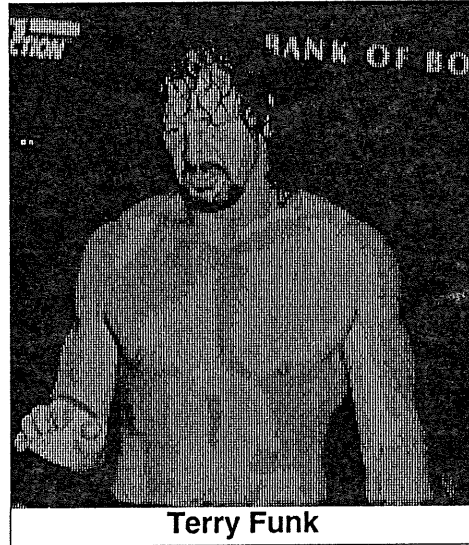
Union-Tribune writer Jeff Savage also detailed homosexual harassment toward adult WWF employees. Most notable was a lawsuit filed by Murray Hodgson, a former WWF television announcer who was fired in August 1991. (Editor's note: Hodgson's lawsuit is for breach of contract, and was filed in Connecticut Federal Court. A claim of sexual harassment was dropped March 3 by Hodgson. Ed Nusbaum, Hodgson's lawyer, said that claim was dropped because it "would have caused the Connecticut human rights group to look into the situation, which would have held up the suit quite a

long time. However, Nusbaum said Hodgson stands behind his claims against the WWF). The sexual harassment charge said Patterson approached Hodgson last July

seeking a homosexual encounter. "My client's response was, 'You've got the wrong guy,'" Nusbaum said. "Mr. Patterson said, 'Not if you want to keep your job with us.'"

Former WWF preliminary wrestler Barry Orton, who wrestled as Barry O, said he constantly had to rebuff

homosexual advances by WWF employees. Orton was quoted as saying he had to rebuff advances from two male WWF officials he was sitting next to while riding through Texas. "He said he jumped from the car at a service station with his pants ripped open to the knee,"



Terry Funk

wrote Savage.

Former WWF champion "Superstar" Billy Graham was also quoted as saying, "I would watch these WWF men walk into the locker rooms and grab wrestlers on the buttocks. It was a sexual squeeze, a fondling, a sexual advance. The wrestlers don't like it, but what can they do? They put up with it or get demoted."

Other interesting quotes from wrestlers:

"It's utterly tragic to have Hogan telling kids to eat their vitamins." -- Terry Funk.

"People say, 'Who cares about wrestling? It's fake anyway. OK, so it's fake. That's not harmful. But what it stands for is horrifying. It's a filthy business, and the tragedy of it all is that parents have no idea.'" -- Bruno Sammartino.

"The business itself forces guys to take (steroids). I couldn't walk into Vince McMahon's office and say 'Change the policy.' He would've changed my policy and left me without a job." -- Jesse Ventura.

The remainder of the 70-inch story dealt with the already well-documented case of Dr. George T. Zahorian, who was found guilty on eight counts of illegally distributing anabolic steroids to pro wrestlers last July. David Shults, whose claim of long-term steroid use by Hogan has also been widely heralded, re-affirmed his comments. Also, David Docter of the St. Louis County

Three Count

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Police Department confirmed a drug search of WWF wrestlers February 14 at the St. Louis Arena was held to search for cocaine and steroids.

Savage's story, originally 134 inches long, was trimmed to 70 by the newspaper's editors. However, just getting the story in was triumph enough for Savage. At one point, there was a good chance the story would not run because it was too controversial.

"It took about six magic tricks and a couple of waves of the wand," said Savage, who began writing the story about the life of Graham until it blossomed into the March 11 story. "The paper is widely considered ultra-conservative, and I consider it a miracle. I think the WWF may have gotten to us and made us run it for more of their own publicity. Who knows what goes through Vince McMahon's mind."

- **Village Voice (March 11):** Further details of the Hodgson lawsuit, with the headline reading, "Taste Test." The story, which is not attributed but was penciled by free-lance wrestling scribe Irv Muchnick, quotes court papers as saying Patterson asked Hodgson, "So you're the new guy?...So what do you taste like?" The article also recounts Hodgson's firing on August 20. Hodgson, who claimed he received praise for his work from his superiors, said he met with McMahon August 29. After McMahon explained he "wasn't the right person for the job," Hodgson was met at the door by an awaiting Patterson. "Wouldn't listen to me, would you?" Patterson allegedly said. The article claimed Hodgson was to be a special events announcer for the WWF, and the voice of McMahon's World Bodybuilding Federation.

- **San Diego Union-Tribune (March 12):** A story featuring on "roid rage," which is the link suggested between violent behavior and steroid abuse. The story, written by David Hasemeyer and Mark T. Sullivan, with input by Savage, tried linking violent acts of WWF wrestlers through the years to steroids.

Among the stories told was one by Shults from his days when he was in the WWF. Shults told the *Union-Tribune* that he became on an airline flight when a passenger refused him to take a seat and challenged him to a fight. "The passenger said, 'We ought to kick your ... ass,'" Shults said. "I dropped my bags and said, 'Who's first?'"

Also chronicled was the 1989 assault by Jake Roberts on John Bartlett in Daytona Beach, Florida. Bartlett and Roberts reportedly struck a friendship at a bar and agreed to drive around together. When women were brought up in their conversation Roberts made crude remarks about the women of the city. Bartlett says he made a low-key remark defending the women, prompting Roberts to ask to be let out of the car. Bartlett stopped the car, and both men got out. Roberts, though, sucker-punched him and broke his left orbital bone.

A less chronicled story was also mentioned, concerning Roddy Piper from 1986. At a bar in Fresno, Calif., Piper (accompanied by Bob Orton and Don



Ken Patera

Muraco) bodyslammed a bartender after being told "last call" had passed and drinks were no longer being served. An arrest warrant for Piper is still out in Fresno according to Fresno court records.

The final mention was of former

WWF wrestlers Ken Patera and Masanori Saito, both of whom served two years in prison after a fight with police officers in 1984. Patera allegedly threw a rock through the window of a McDonald's in Wisconsin after he was told the fast-food chain was closed. When officers Jacalyn Hibbard and John Dillon knocked on Patera's hotel room door to investigate the matter, Patera allegedly threw open the door and both wrestlers began swing full-force at the officers. Saito reportedly smashed Hibbard's head repeatedly against the hallway walls, allowed the officer to collapse to the floor and then administered a knee drop, fracturing her skull in several places. Patera broke Dillon's leg in multiple places and shattered several of his teeth.

Patera and Saito, though, were wrongly identified in the article as being employed by the WWF at the time of the incident. They were working for the American Wrestling Association at the time. Also, Muraco was identified as "Dan Muraco."

- **New York Post (March 12):** Mushnick and Michael Shain summarized Savage's story from the day before, reported the name of Cole's lawyer (Alan Fuchsberg) and summarized a letter in the *Wrestling Observer Newsletter* from ex-wrestler Tom Harkins, who says he was propositioned by Patterson in 1985 after asking for more work. When Harkins refused, Patterson reportedly "responded by reiterating that I would never work for them in that case and kept his word."

- **Los Angeles Times (March 12):** The harshest critique written, to that point, on Hogan by John Cherwa, who is a nominee for the best sports story of 1991 by the ASPA. The story contained no new startling revelations (at least to hard-core wrestling fans), but offered some interesting details on Hogan's private life.

Hogan, 38, currently lives in Clearwater, Florida, has a wife named Linda, and two children -- Brooke, 3, and Nicole, 1. Hogan was born in Augusta, Ga., weighing 10 pounds, seven ounces. Hogan (real name Terry Bollea) moved to Tampa when he was three-years-old.

He was a star pitcher on his little league team at 12, but was sent to the Florida Sheriff Boys' Ranch for street fighting when he was 14. Hogan, who broke into wrestling in 1978, was arrested in New Jersey for possession of a firearm in 1980. He entered into a pre-trial intervention program, served six months probation and the felony charge was dropped.

More striking are eye-witness accounts by Graham and Orton of Hogan snorting cocaine in the early 1980s. Former WWF performer **Billy Jack Haynes** told of an incident where Hogan and two other wrestlers were driving "about 80 miles per hour, drinking and smoking joints. I told Hogan that he was crazy, and if we were stopped with all the drugs on him, his career would be over. We finally got to his house at about 4 a.m. and he came into the bedroom where I was and apologized to me. He said, 'You're absolutely right, man. I can't believe I was doing that.'"

Discussions of Hogan's alleged steroid use were also printed, including claims by Graham he injected Hogan with the drug three times in 1987. It was confirmed Hogan will be taking an indefinite leave of absence from the WWF after the group's April 5 *Wrestlemania VIII* pay-per-view show. "It might be for six months, it might be for a year, it might be forever -- we don't know," McMahon said. "Hulk Hogan, the character, will always be associated with the WWF. Whether Terry Bollea will be is another question." McMahon also said only 15 percent of WWF wrestlers have anabolic steroid metabolite in their systems as compared to 50 percent in November, and commented on Hogan's appearance last July on the *Arsenio Hall Show*, where Hogan claimed he has used steroids only three times, all of which were in 1983, and to repair a shoulder injury. "I think Hulk told the truth, but maybe not the whole truth. Graham: 'I compare Hulk Hogan to (former Washington D.C. Mayor) **Marion Barry**. Barry went to schools and talked to kids about not doing drugs, and at the same time had crack cocaine in his pants pocket. Hogan is a liar to the children, because all the time he is saying, 'I'm not using steroids.' I think that was the most disgusting thing you could do in this country with the drug situation the way it is."

The article also mentioned the Zahorian trial, and the recent arrests of WWF wrestlers **Kerry Von Erich** and **Marty Janetty** on drug charges. Former WWF performer **Ivan Putski** (Joe Bednarski) said of steroids, "It's something you have to do. I didn't want to take them, but I had to because I didn't want the other guys to look better than me...It's a vicious circle until you retire."

• *Entertainment Tonight* (March 12): A two-minute segment on the allegations with taped interviews with Haynes and Orton. "You see (homosexual harassment) go on all the time," Orton said. "You're coming out of the shower, and there's your booker standing there

staring at your mid-section with that goofy look on his face, making groans and licking his lips." McMahon was interviewed, and looked physically worn on-camera. "Our investigation shows us there may have been some locker room horse play, but there was never anything to my knowledge that was illegal or immoral. We don't tolerate that." McMahon inferred the investigation had been completed, when on *Donahue* four days later, said he was still searching as to whether these allegations were true. *ET* also said the WWF had implemented a "drug-screening" program, not drug testing.

• *San Diego Union-Tribune* (March 13): A Savage story on Hogan, reporting The Hulkster has tentatively agreed to a two-year deal worth \$100,000 an appearance with New Japan Pro Wrestling. It also features the only public comment Hogan has made concerning his drug use: "I haven't heard anybody say anything. I live in Florida, not San Diego. Nobody's talking as far as I'm concerned, and I'd appreciate it if you didn't call me again, brother." Hogan's unlisted phone number was changed the next day, according to Savage.

More anecdotes from former WWF wrestlers on Hogan:

"One time in 1984, he wanted me to inject him with enough steroids to kill a horse. I said, '(Hulk) this is too much,' and he said, 'Just shoot it in there. When I die, they're gonna have these guns hanging out of the casket.' -- Shults.

"Every time Hulk came into Las Vegas, he would call me up looking for some blow [cocaine]. A couple of years ago, he bought an eight-ball (an eighth of an ounce) and did all of it in his hotel room after the show." -- Barry Orton.

"Cocaine? He's been snorting that stuff longer than he's been in wrestling. He goes crazy with that stuff. He smokes hash, takes pills...He's a walking pharmacy." -- **Bruno Sammartino**.

Speaking in Hogan's defense were WWF event coordinator **Lenny Fields** and Gillette Corporation spokeswoman **Michele Szytnal**. "He's squeaky clean when he's in front of kids," Fields said. "His personal life is being dug up by (the media). It isn't fair." Right Guard deodorant, the company Hogan does a commercial for, said it will not drop him from endorsing their product.

• *Larry King Live* on CNN (March 13): A more appropriate name for this CNN cross-fire type show would have been "*Larry King Lies*," because McMahon was on a tangent. He denied Hodgson had ever worked for the WBF, no WWF wrestlers were on steroids and said Orton wrote to him while serving a two-year conviction for manslaughter (which Orton denies). However, Sammartino and Orton, the two guests, didn't come off well either. Sammartino had a difficult time bringing exact points forward and remembering names, while Orton was on a seven-second delay on a telephone hook-

up from Las Vegas and wasn't effectively answering all the questions asked. This format allowed McMahon to question whatever either wrestler said and attempt to bully them over, like McMahon screaming at Sammartino because his son, David, admitted using steroids, and Orton because he was in jail. No new ground was broken, but no knockout punch landed by either side. Orton explained that Garvin and Patterson were not in the WWF at the time of the alleged harassment (1978), but discrimination followed him to the WWF. He also compared the sexual harassment he and other wrestlers received to the case of a female secretary who was willing to put up with it in a limited way, as long as it didn't become violence or overly excessive, to keep her job. McMahon mentioned Mushnick, and said that the columnist told WWFTV director John Filipelli that McMahon should "burn in hell." That's not my call.

- **Larry King Live on Radio (March 13):** A much more favorable response toward the wrestlers thanks to Hodgson, who annihilated McMahon's previous statements.

- **People (March 23):** The most critical story of Hogan thus far. Written by Irv Muchnick and Michael A. Lipton, the allegations of Hogan's use of steroids by Haynes, Putski, Shults, Graham, and Randy Culley (*The Assassin*, *Moondog Rex*) were parlayed. Culley said, "Me and Hogan ran around together. He was real bold about the steroid use. And he also did Placidly (a sleeping capsule), Quaaludes, cocaine." Said Putski: "Hulk always bragged about steroids. He'd say, 'S--t, I don't cycle (a practice in which users abstain for a while to let the body return to its normal state). I don't get off of them. That's how I stay 'over.''" Patera: "Who didn't do steroids? The word came down from the promoters, especially McMahon, that you had to be bigger than life. The only way to do that was to take anabolic steroids."

- **Donahue (March 16):** The most heated discussion to date, and likely the last on this matter for some time to come. The show was to originally feature Harkins, Orton, Dave Meltzer of the *Wrestling Observer*, John Arezzi of *Pro Wrestling Spotlight*, Shults, Sammartino and Graham. McMahon agreed to appear if Shults wasn't on the show, which was agreed upon at the last-minute and unbeknownst to the guests. McMahon looked awful once again. Phil Donahue did his homework in researching this subject, but the format of this show and Donahue's delivery are unbearable.

Anyway, the show began with a 20-minute round-table discussion between Hodgson, Orton, Harkins and McMahon, in which McMahon got pounded pretty hard. Hodgson told his story in terse terms, while Orton re-iterated he was not harassed in the WWF, but the practice went on. Harkins explained that in a Los Angeles hotel in 1985, he asked Patterson if he could get more work as a jobber. Patterson said Harkins would have to sleep with him, which he refused to do. Harkins, a long-time jobber, was then never booked in the WWF again, nor was he allowed in the WWF locker room like before. Harkins said he left numerous messages for McMahon after the incident, because the calls were never returned. In his rebuttal, McMahon said he had never heard from Harkins, which got over to the crowd like an iron balloon and drew boos. The most heated debate came between Hodgson and McMahon, where McMahon claimed he fired the announcer because he was horrible. Hodgson explained the

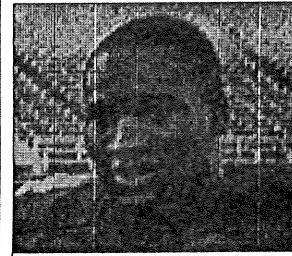
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Graham says Bo can come back

By ALEX MARVEZ
Three Count Editor

Bo Jackson may never return to major-league baseball after an expected hip replacement operation, but **Wayne Coleman** has proved that a come-back is possible in professional wrestling.

Coleman, who wrestled as "**Superstar**" **Billy Graham**, received a complete left-hip replacement in October 1986 and returned to wrestling 10 months later.



Bo Jackson

"I went back because I felt invincible," said Coleman, 48. "I was on steroids and felt I could do anything. I had no hip pain, so I thought my problems were fixed."

Coleman, who admitted using steroids regularly for 20 years until 1989, suffers from avascular necrosis-- the disintegration of the body's joints because of limited blood supply.

Jackson, a former two-sport star, injured his left hip while playing for the Los Angeles Raiders in January 1991. He returned from rehabilitation to play for the Chicago White Sox during the last month of 1991 baseball season but was unable to run in three exhibition games this spring.

Coleman had his right ankle fused in February 1990 because of joint disintegration and said he was advised to fuse his left ankle as well. Coleman will have his artificial hip replaced in two weeks because the bumps and bruises sustained in his wrestling comeback loosened it.

"The doctors said not to wrestle again after the hip replacement or they would see me back in the hospital after four or five years," said Coleman, a former WWF champion. "They hit it right on the money."

"If I would have known what steroids do, I never would have taken them. The trade-off isn't worth it."

Coleman, though, said he believes Jackson could resume a major-league career after hip replacement surgery.

"I took the bumps and the hip held together for quite a while, although my doctor put extra bolts in it to attach the cup to my hip socket and enforce it," Coleman said. "The hip outlasted my ankles it was so good. If Bo could be confined to a designated hitter position, the hip would hold up."

This story appeared in the March 15 issue of The Miami Herald.

Sting-Muta top Steiners, Luger pins Chono on Supershow II

By ALEX MARVEZ

Three Count Editor

World Championship Wrestling aired its Japan Supershow II on cable systems nationwide during the first three weeks of March. The seven-match card was taped January 4 from a joint WCW-New Japan Pro Wrestling show in the Tokyo Egg Dome. Results:

1) **Jushin Lyger-Mosashi Aoyagi-Akira** defeated **Hiro Saito-Norio Honaga-Super Strong Machine** when Akira (Akira Nogami) pinned Saito with a dragon suplex (full nelson into a suplex). This match was disappointing, especially considering Lyger was involved, because of the slow pace and uneven flow. **Jim Ross** and **Tony Schiavone** did a fantastic job announcing, but they did have their share of tall tales. From Ross when describing the different style of match presented in Japan: "The strategies you see in WCW are international." Yeah, right. This match would have been helped immensely by a pre-match video explaining the various holds of each wrestler, feuds between the teams, etc. Instead, the only known commodity was Lyger. This match was solid technically, but it was your typical New Japan match -- lots of good wrestling moves executed in no particular sequence. I find it boring, although I respect it. **Grade: C.**

2) **Arn Anderson-Larry Zybyszko** defeated **Shiro Koshinaka-Michioshi Ohara** when Anderson pinned Ohara with a spinebuster after Zybyszko kicked Ohara in the back while he was bouncing off the ropes. Anderson and Zybyszko showed more scientific moves in this match than they do in the U.S. However, Koshinaka wasn't in long enough to make it an outstanding bout. **Grade: C+.**

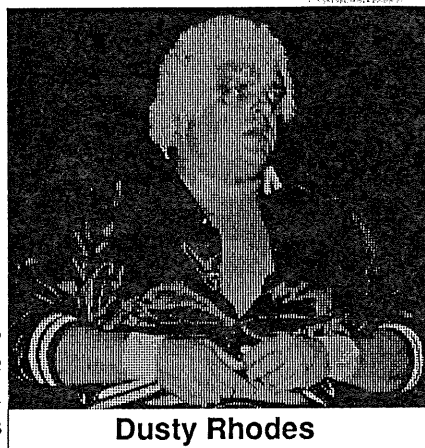
3) **Dusty-Dustin Rhodes** defeated **Kim Duk-Masa Saito** when Dustin pinned Duk after a bulldog headlock. Dustin and Duk, who was never identified as ex-World Wrestling Federation jobber **Tiger Chung Lee**, were horribly out of synch working together early. Dusty did his usual gimmick, although Ross was sure to keep mentioning that Dusty was now a WCW administrator and won't be wrestling that often. **Grade: C-.**

4) **Big Van Vader** and **El Gigante** fought to a double countout. Really bad, with Gigante still showing no clue how to work a match. After the bout, Vader stuck Gigante's face in the smoke emating from his protective headgear. **Grade: D.**

5) **Lex Luger** defeated **Masa Chono** after a double axe handle off the second rope. I wonder why

this match was aired on television.

First, Luger isn't even with the company any longer. Secondly, Chono is one of New Japan's top stars, and shouldn't have to be shown losing to a performer who is no longer with the company. Ross had two fact errors when describing



Dusty Rhodes

Luger -- he did not graduate from high school with a 4.0 grade-point average and did not attend Miami University, which is in Ohio, but the University of Miami in South Florida. This was the best match on the show. There was a great countout sequence, with Luger placing Chono in the backbreaker outside the ring and leaving him there to get counted out. The fans went nuts until Chono re-entered. **Grade: B.**

6) **Riki Choshu** defeated **Tatsumi Fujinami** after a finishing sequence of two belly-to-back suplexes and three clotheslines. Why was this match shown when WCW desperately needs to get its own wrestlers over against Japanese? And if Fujinami becomes the new National Wrestling Alliance champion, why show him doing a job? Once again, your typical New Japan sequence of moves without rhyme or reason. **Grade: C.**

7) **Sting-The Great Muta** defeated **Rick-Scott Steiner** in the main event. The finish saw a double pin of Sting reversing an attempted tilt-a-whirl backbreaker into a roll-up and Rick Steiner pinning Muta after a belly-to-belly suplex. Sting, though, was the legal man in the ring. There were some awesome spots, like Rick giving Muta a belly-to-belly on the arena floor and Rick catching Muta midway through his handspring elbow and turning it into a german suplex. However, the action was out of synch again, and the finish was awful. **Grade: B-**

Notes: WCW airs its joint cards with New Japan on pay-per-view shows because NJPW provides a tape of the show free of charge to WCW, thus any profits are pure gravy. However, the group would be better off airing such a show as a Clash of Champions merely because it would help portray a major-league image.

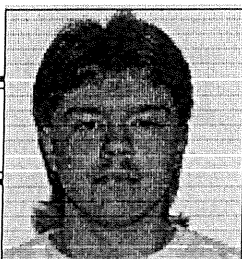
Musings From Japan...

Supershow Lacking WCW Superstars

World Championship Wrestling finally aired its version of the Jan. 4 Japan Supershow II, beginning with week-long pay-per-view telecasts on March 7. New Japan Pro Wrestling's special aired on Japanese television for free in January with a slightly different line up. The final four matches from the Supershow were the only bouts to air in both countries.

For those of you who haven't seen the New Japan special, here's what you missed:

John Muse



1) **Shinya Hashimoto** pinned **Bill Kazmaier** with a DDT in 8:37 (4:41 of the match was shown). The Japanese really get into Hashimoto because he has the reputation of a "shooter" (a legitimately tough wrestler) and his lethal looking kicks. Well, Kaz almost blew that image. Near the finish, Hashimoto began throwing the kicks. I've seen guys major New Japan stars like **Hiroshi Hase** and **Kelji Muto** sell the kicks like they've been shot. Kaz barely flinched. But, his wrestling made **Junkyard Dog** look like **Tsuyoshi Kikuchi** (All Japan's favorite whipping boy). **Grade: D.**

2) **Antonio Inoki** defeated Hase with an octopus submission hold in 10:09 (8:38 shown). Give the 47-year-old Inoki credit for one thing -- he put himself in the ring with the right opponent. Hase was just incredible in carrying the match. Inoki may have lost a step in the ring, but hasn't lost a thing in psychology. The bout had great heat, and I thought it was a little better than the **Jushin Lyger** six-man tag team match. New Japan could have created a superstar if Hase had won, but with Inoki's unstable political future (as a member of Japan's House of Commons; Inoki is the first pro wrestler ever elected to public office), not to mention an ego that puts **Dusty Rhodes** to shame, they probably didn't want to take a chance. **Grade: B.**

Big Egg Notes: **Jim Ross** and **Tony Schiavone** reprised their WCW announcing roles from last year. They seemed more comfortable with the names and histories of the Japanese wrestlers. It was nice to hear Ross and Schiavone put emphasis on good solid wrestling during the **Tatsumi Fujinami** vs. **Riki Choshu** match. The comments questioning the true master of the scorpion deathlock were absurd. Choshu was probably using that hold when Sting was in high school. I am still in shock after the revelation that Muto and **The Great Muta** are one and the same. Thank you Jim, it was a long time coming.

• Referee **Bill Alfonso** was once again surrounded by controversy. If you remember, Alfonso was involved in the botched Dusty finish in last year's **Ric Flair** vs. **Fujinami** match. He was the referee who reversed the decision after Fujinami had scored the three count to win the title. This year, he

refereed the match between **Big Van Vader** and **El Gigante** that ended in a double count-out. Several years ago, the popularity of **Akira Maeda's** Universal Wrestling Federation forced other promotions to change their philosophy and switch to clean match finishes. The fans were extremely upset with the decision. Alfonso also refereed the **Steiner brothers'** match with the double pin situation. Good thing it wasn't Muto who was counted down.

• Where were **Brian Pillman**, **Bobby Eaton**, **Ricky Steamboat** and **Terry Taylor**? That's the million dollar question. There is no excuse to explain why these wrestlers did not appear. The matches were bad compared to last year's show. WCW should have lived up to its end of the working relationship by providing the best talent they have for the show. We can blame **Jim Herd** and **Dusty Rhodes** for this one. (Note: **Cactus Jack** and **Rick Rude** were excluded from my list because of their recent ties with All Japan).

P-P-Pro Wrestling Ne-e-w-w-w-s: According to the March 9 issue of the *Wrestling Observer Newsletter*, **Fujinami** is the leading candidate to win the vacant National Wrestling Alliance title. I have great respect for **Fujinami**, but I wouldn't give him the strap. He hasn't been the same since his back injury and his headline match against **Flair** last year at **Superbrawl** didn't garner much casual fan interest. Hopefully, clearer minds will prevail and the strap will be given to one of the younger, better wrestlers like Muto or Hase. Whomever is chosen, WCW would be wise to start showing some of his matches on TV, or they'll be stuck with another main event that only means something to the hard core audience. The logical choice is Muto. A good scenario would be showing some of **The Great Muta's** Japanese matches on TV before the **NWA** tournament. Push the tourney as being the first time Muta will be on American TV as himself. Muto wins the title by defeating Hase in the finals. Then, make a big deal about who will fight **Sting** in the unification match -- Muto or his "alter ego," **The Great Muta**.

• New Japan crowned new **IWGPrix** tag team champions March 1 at **Yokohama Arena** when **Bam Bam Bigelow** and **Vader** defeated Muto and Hase after Vader hit Muto with a splash. Another highlight from **Yokohama** was **Koji Kanemoto** making his debut as **Tiger Mask** (the third wrestler to do so in the past 10 years). **Samuri (Osamu Matsuda)** defeated the new Tiger, but not before **Kanemoto** amazed the audience by copying the original **Tiger Mask (Satoru Sayama)** to a T.

• **Flair** will be making his long-awaited debut for **Super World Sports** April 16 -18 with a brief tour. **Flair** defends the **WWF** world title against **Genichiro Tenryu** at the **Tokyo Coliseum** on the 18th. This could be the best **SWS** match since the promotion officially opened it's doors in October 1990.

John Muse is Three Count's bi-weekly Japanese columnist. Contrary to rumor, he isn't the full-time political adviser to Antonio Inoki. The 22-year-old Taylor, Mich., resident instead is majoring in computer programming.

WWF Lies Deserve Media Attention

There we were, my dad and I, all set to bear witness to the possible, official beginning of the end of the World Wrestling Federation -- the much ballyhooed 20/20 piece on steroids in athletics -- and what happens? Zilch, that's what.

By postponing it just because **Joan Lunden** (*Good Morning America*) is miffed at the cash-for-trash tabloids writing about her di-

Paul Hanlin Jr.

voice and asked **Barbara Walters** for equal time, ABC gets a major thumbs down from yours truly.

There are those who will argue that the sexual harassment lawsuit filed last week in New York may have put things on hold, but I can't buy that-- at least not yet. It casts doubt on their commitment to reporting on this no matter whose feathers they ruffle, even Mr. Astalavista Baby, grand superior master of the chemically enhanced physique. The perfect choice for chairman of the President's Council on *Physical Fitness*, don't you think?

Did anyone catch Junior on last Friday's *Larry King Live*? I passed, thank you. This buffoon is trying to tell you and I that his outfit's "steroid testing plan," now even better than the Olympics', as well as all organized American professional sports, is working. Why should I waste my eyesight looking at this fraud tell more lies about **Hulk Hogan**, his "steroid testing plan" and the sacking of two of his upper management without a whimper of "I'll stay on and fight to clear my name?" Just BOOM! "We quit?"

Damned if **Dave Meltzer** didn't call it in the March 9 *Wrestling Observer*. Most of the media will ignore this story. It's *wrestling*, sports editors say. It's *fake*. It's *theater*. Who gives a s---?

Well, here's a news flash. The taking of anabolic steroids is until against the law. It has been known to produce untidy side effects. Little things currently plaguing **Billy Graham**. Little things that sent **Ed Gantner** to an early grave. It doesn't matter who uses them -- football players, wrestlers, body-builders, the one million or so adolescent men who want to "get all the girls," per the *World Bodybuilding Federation Magazine*. A wrestler will wind up just as dead as the average schmuck who ignores the health risks. There are no

degrees of death here. Steroids are an equal opportunity wrecker of lives.

But it's *wrestling*. It's *fake*. It's *theater*. Who gives a s---?

If you are that disdainful of pro wrestling and want to do a number on it, you **Edward R. Murrow** wanna-bes... Yes, you in the print and (especially) TV media who won't take this story seriously, you should be copying what your fellow journalists in L.A., San Diego, New York and Miami are doing-- blowing the lid off the work these jokers are trying to put over on you.

As of now, I challenge every subscriber to this sheet who's as fed up as I am at the double standard that's keeping this story from getting the nationwide play that it *demands*, to make a copy of this column and send it to your local television station or newspaper's sports department. Ask them why they're dogging it. Ask them if they would apply the same standards in use right now if the sport in question were baseball, basketball, football or hockey. Allegations of male sexual abuse, players taking steroids, all this encouraged by management? It would be splashed on the front page of every newspaper in creation.

But it's *wrestling*. It's *fake*. It's *theater*. Who gives a s---?

Matter of fact, this challenge extends to anyone in the wrestling underground who still cares about this sport after all that's been done to it over the past two months. *Observer*; *Torch*; *Arena Report*; *Sushi*; whatever your medicine. Let's cut the in-fighting crap and start saving wrestling from itself. Before it goes the way of the pet rock, hula hoop and **Kristi Yamaguchi's** product endorsements, because she's half-Japanese, when to be 1/1,000th of that in these United States right now is to invite calamity.

What's it gonna be, guys and gals?

And we haven't even talked about World Championship Wrestling yet. Don't worry; they're up next week. Steroid abuse in wrestling isn't mutually exclusive to the Whiff, you know.

But it's *wrestling*. It's *fake*. It's *theater*. Who gives a s---?

A final note, since I have the space this week... all comments about what is written here are welcomed and encouraged. My address is 5283 Glenloch St., Philadelphia, PA 19124-1545. I'd like to make this column as reader-friendly as I can.

Savage Pins Roberts on Miami Arena Card

Randy Savage pinned Jake Roberts in a steel cage match March 15 to win the main event of a World Wrestling Federation show at the Miami Arena.

In other matches on the undercard: The Natural Disasters defeated Jim Duggan-Sergeant Slaughter via disqualification; Shawn Michaels d. El Matador via countout; Tatonka d. Kato; Owen Hart d. Beau Beverly; Blake Beverly defeated Koko B. Ware; The Genius d. Jim Powers. As you can see, this was a hodge-podge card, because scheduled

ALEX MARVEZ



performers Jim Neidhart and Jimmy Snuka did not appear, and replacements were not announced prior to match time.

Pretty sad that Ware, the current U.S.W.A. champion, was squashed. At least it moves Blake into the No. 1 contenders spot should he ever leave the WWF for the big money in Memphis. I hope next issue will feature a complete description of the card, courtesy of our "Results" section. The WWF returns to Miami Arena May 9.

Suncoast: This group's telecasts will clear 300,000 more homes April 6 when WTTA-TV (Channel 38) in Tampa gets picked-up by Paragon Cable. Also, Suncoast's scheduled April 11 taping in Bradenton was pushed back one week because the original card runs opposite a town parade.

ICWA: Speaking of which, James Manley's group will not be appearing on WTTA and remains without a television outlet, according to a source close to the situation.

• Neidhart made his debut with this group March 5 before 200 fans at the Tampa Sportatorium, pinning Star Rider Rock after a power slam. Other results included Allison Royal over Penelope Paradise, Jim Backlund pinning Mike Incognito to retain the ICWA light heavyweight title, The Hitmen (Lou Perez and Allan Iron Eagle) topping The Terminators via DQ and Denny Brown besting Mark Starr via DQ in the main event cage match. Coconut Man was to originally wrestle Starr, but he came out with his arm in a sling claiming to have been jumped in the parking lot the prior week by Backlund and Starr. After the match, Backlund ran in to double-team Brown, who juiced. Wrestlers tried climbing in the cage for the save but failed. The situation finally resolved itself when Manley fined Backlund \$1,000 (which forced him to make 100 ICWA

appearances for free).

• Three more well-known wrestlers -- Robert Fuller, Kevin Sullivan and Kendall Windham -- appeared on the group's March 12 show. Results saw Fuller (as a heel) pin Tex Salenger, Horace Boulder and Sandy Beach wrestle to a 10-minute draw, Starr pin Coconut Man, Dean Malenko (substituting for no-showing Brown) winning the ICWA light heavyweight title from Backlund via submission and Sullivan defeating Windham in a wild brawl throughout the building. After the match, Backlund began pounding Windham until Fuller turned babyface and made the save. The March 19 show is headlined by Fuller-Windham vs. Backlund-Sullivan.

CWF: Paul Spiegel's Championship Wrestling from Florida drew 200 fans for a March 8 benefit show at the Tampa Sportatorium. Vern Henderson became the new CWF International champion (which covers Hillborough, Manatee and Pinellas Counties) by defeating The Black Panther when Panther's manager, The Zebra Kid, accidentally crowned his protege with the title belt. Panther beat up Kid after the match. Hercules also appeared on the card, giving an interview. On the undercard, Bobby Blaze pinned Rich Thames, Tommy Starr d. Cody Wade via DQ in a no-DQ match, Frankie Reyes-Jim Cooper d. Sonny T-Fabulous Fritz (a manager, not a Von Erich), Chris Proctor d. The Surgeon General, The Terminators d. Rob Van Dam-Coconut Man to retain the ICWA tag-team titles and Jerry Flynn d. Jumbo Baretta via DQ.

IWF: The big news is the signing of Raul Mata to work the group's frequent spot shows. Mata, Dave Meltzer's favorite childhood wrestler, was the first performer in the U.S. to use the Frankensteiner as a finishing hold in the early 1970s. Mata will renew his feud with The Possessor (Ned Brady), with their first match March 14 before 150 fans in Frostproof. Dick Slater appeared and turned on Blackjack Mulligan in his IWF title match against The Stomper. Slater, who will also work selected spot shows for the IWF, reportedly accepted the "\$5,000 bounty" placed on Mulligan's head by Nasty Ronnie, and turned on Mulligan during the bout. Mulligan thus won via DQ.

• The IWF has used a single camera at various spot shows for taping purposes. Expect some of the footage on future IWF shows, because it doesn't appear the group will be able to use Universal Studios anymore. There is talk of a future TV taping in Daytona Beach.

Thanks to Shannon Rose for information related to this report.

Masakre loses hair to Morgan; Aguayo pinned by Chicana in EMLL

With two weeks gone since our last Reporte de Lucha Libre, EMLL cards from Arena Mexico have aired on Galavisión March 8 and March 15. But before we begin, I would like to thank everyone for the compliments toward the col-

Carlos Rey



umn. I'm glad everyone seems to be enjoying the Lucha style so much. Here's an analysis of both shows, beginning with the former:

1) **Espectrico Jr.**—Little Pierroth defeated the team of Octagoncito-Mascarita Sagrada in a two-of-three falls midget match. In Mexico, the midgets don't have their own wrestling identity, probably because promoters do not feel fans will care for them as ordinary wrestlers. So, the midgets dress like bigger wrestlers of the same name, which is an honor to the emulated wrestler. Sometimes a wrestler can be seen offering advice or help to his smaller protege. One current feud between Pirata Morgan and Mascarita Sagrada began when Morgan tossed Mascarita Sagrada over the top rope after the match. Also, these midgets do the same high spots and flying maneuvers their larger counterparts do, which makes them even more impressive and fun to watch. Anyway, the first fall saw Espectrico pin Mascarita with a roll-over cradle after a power bomb and Pierroth suplexing Octagoncito into a submission hold for the victory. The second fall looked bad for the technicos (Octagoncito-Mascarita) at the onset, until Octagoncito jumped off the top rope with a bodypress for the pinfall and Mascarita did an incredible somersault leap over the top rope onto Pierroth outside the ring, leaving the rudo unable to answer the bell. The third fall could have gone either way, but the size advantage of the rudos came into play. Pierroth applied an airplane spin and then a submission hold on Octagoncito, which forced the surrender, and Espectrico power bombed Mascarita before applying a submission hold for the victory.

2) The tecnico team of Mascara Sagrada-Lizmark-Octagon gained a victory over Pierroth Jr.—Jerry Estrada—Emillo Charles

Jr. The first fall had lots of action and abuse of the heels, as Pierroth got attacked by Sagrada before even entering the ring, and Lizmark and Estrada brawling. The rudos made a comeback, but the babyfaces took the fall. Lizmark power bombed Estrada for the pin and Octagon did the same with a flying headbutt off the top rope. That left Pierroth facing a three-on-one situation, so he decided to surrender the fall. The second fall also had great action as Lizmark back flipped Estrada over the top rope onto the arena floor. However, the rudos won when Charles made Octagon submit, Pierroth pinned Sagrada and Estrada left Lizmark unable to continue the fall. The third fall saw Sagrada wrestling with half his mask torn off while juicing (bleeding), but the technicos won anyway. Lizmark made Charles submit to an over-the-knee backbreaker and Sagrada forced Pierroth's submission to a swastika hold. Estrada didn't even bother fighting the third fall by surrendering. After the match, there were some good ringside interviews with Pierroth and Sagrada, which makes me believe they are building to a hair-vs.-hair match between the two.

3) This was a continuation of last week's dream match, as **Clen Caras-Mascara Año 2000-Sangre Chicana** lost to **Rayo de Jalisco Jr.—Conan—Pero Aguayo**. Jalisco showed up to the ring early and was attacked before Conan and Aguayo showed up to make the save. After a quick brawl, Aguayo held Chicana's legs while Conan gained the pinfall. Jalisco also suplexed Año 2000 for another pin, leaving Caras, who would not enter the ring and forfeited the match. Caras took a beating in the second fall, but the tide eventually turned. Año 2000 ripped Jalisco's mask so badly he was unable to defend himself until a fan gave him a new mask. Chicana continues to show his old fire as well. Chicana held Jalisco outside the ring, and Caras and Año 2000 threw Aguayo from the ring onto Jalisco, rendering both of them unable to re-enter the ring. So all the rudos began beating Conan. The referees called for the fall to end in the rudos favor, but because they didn't stop pounding Conan, the decision was reversed and the match ended. This match is worth watching, because Jalisco was left unconscious outside the ring without a mask.

4) The best match of the evening, which was a hair vs. hair match between two rudos --

Masakre vs. Morgan. Pierroth was in Masakre's corner, and **Bestia Salvaje** was in Morgan's. The first fall began with Morgan attacking Masakre savagely before the bell, leaving the latter juicing heavily within one minute of the opening bell. Morgan just kept applying punishment to Masakre before gaining the pinfall with a body press off the top rope. People used to talk about Jimmy Snuka's leap off the top rope, but he has nothing on Morgan. The second fall saw Masakre come-back and draw blood from Morgan. Most of this fall took place outside the ring. By this time, you could tell Masakre was going to have problems with heel referee **Gato Montini** (who is quickly becoming the lead heel of the promotion). However, Masakre was able to make Morgan submit to a *nodo rosa* -- a variation of a backward full nelson. The third fall was excellent, with Masakre dominating throughout. The referees were even covered with blood. The ringside doctor talked about ending the match because it was so bloody. Anyway, here's where things got funny. Morgan was caught giving up three times by announcer **Dr. Alfonso Morales**, Pierroth and the fans, but Montini would not acknowledge this. By this point, Pierroth and the fans were going wild. During all this, Masakre made a flying leap off the top rope onto Morgan outside the ring that was incredible. Masakre re-entered the ring and the fans counted Morgan out of the ring, but Montini would not acknowledge the 20-count. Morgan also double kicked Pierroth in the face outside the ring, which should be an automatic disqualification, but nothing happened. Morgan finally applied a hold on Masakre that is similar to a scorpion deathlock. Montini then said Masakre submitted, when it was clear he didn't. No one was happy with this, so when Masakre was getting his head shaved, Pierroth and Morgan began brawling. Later, Morgan asked the commission to sponsor a bout between him and Pierroth. I must sound biased, but another must-see match.

Now, results from the EMLL show aired March 15 (held March 6):

1) **Mascarita Sagrada** defeated **Espetrico Jr.** in two-of-three falls to win the CMLL world super mini-stars title. Only clips were shown, but Sagrada proved why he is considered the best midjet worker in the world. After the first two falls were split, Sagrada gained the title with a clean pinfall in the center of the ring.

2) **America-Ciclón Ramirez** (technicos) topped **El Gran Sheik-El Felino** (rudos) in two straight falls. After a slow start, Felino and America really worked well together in the first fall. America pinned Felino by being backflipped by Ramirez on top of him for the pin, and Ramirez forced Sheik to submit to the *mesedora* (rocker). America somersaulted on both heels outside the ring in the second fall, and Ramirez applied the *Huracarana* (Frankensteiner) on Sheik soon after for the pin. I

know this may sound silly, but America has improved tremendously since changing his name from **Pantera II**.

3) **Ultimate Dragon-Kato Kung Lee-Octagon** (technicos) defeated **Javier Cruz-Blue Panther-Salvaje** (rudos) in another two-fall match. Panther (the team captain) was pinned by Dragon (**Yoshihiro Asai**) in the first fall after his moonsault off the top rope. The second fall was pretty wild. Dragon rolled up Cruz for one pin, and in turn, Dragon was power bombed by Salvaje and eliminated. Lee then threw Salvaje from the ring to brawl with Octagon, leaving Lee to pin Panther. A terrible injustice, as Lee should not have been in the ring with these great workers.

4) The fourth consecutive technico victory, with **Solomon Grundy-Aaron Grundy-Lizmark** beating **Morgan-Nitron** (the former seven-foot bodyguard of **Woman in WCW**)-**El Satanico**. The first fall lacked in quality wrestling, but had some amusing comedy spots. All three technicos piled onto Nitron for the pin. The second fall featured the only actual wrestling during the entire match, which, of course, took place between Lizmark and Morgan. In another miscarriage of justice, Nitron eventually pinned Lizmark. The third fall was headed the rudos way until a leap from Lizmark onto Satanico outside the ring turned the tide. Solomon splashed Morgan from the second rope for the pin, and the other two rudos were unable to answer the bell. Aaron Grundy is known by American fans as **Mike Shaw** (**Muchan Singh**, **Norman the Lunatic**).

5) This was another grudge match between **Chicana-Caras-Año 200** against **Conan-Aguayo-Jalisco**, with the rudos scoring the victory. The first fall was full of brawling (which I love), spilling into the first few rows of ringside and forcing fans to flee. For those of you who will see the tape, watch for the part where Chicana falls into the fans after getting clobbered by Conan and Aguayo, then knocks them over en route back to the ring. Later, Chicana runs into the seats when Conan chases him. Hilarious stuff. Caras pinned Conan for the first fall. Jalisco ripped Año 2000's mask badly enough to show some of his face, but he came back to score a clean pin on Jalisco. Conan then pinned Caras, leaving Aguayo and Chicana. Aguayo attempted a leap from the top rope onto Chicana, but missed and was pinned. If anyone can find a better match from this past week that aired in the U.S., I'll crawl across the ring and kiss their feet. If **Eddie Gilbert** can do it, so can I!

*Carlos Rey has watched lucha libre for more than 10 years, and cannot get enough of the style. He not only writes a weekly column for **Three Count**, but, in addition, has tapes of Galavision shows available. Write to him at 996 West 45th Place, Hialeah FL 33012 for more information. He is hoping to begin receiving tapes of the UWA by the end of March. Look for more details soon.*

Letters to the Editor

Dear Alex,

This letter is in agreement to a letter in Issue 24 of *Three Count* from Eddie Goldman. Your newsletter and *The Wrestling Chatterbox* are the only ones that printed letters of complaint about Joel Goodhart's claims of bankruptcy that left many fans out in the cold.

I ordered \$110 worth of tapes from Goodhart and never received a thing. I mailed a copy of my letter of complaint twice to the *Wrestling Observer Newsletter*, *Pro Wrestling Torch*, etc., and I guess they didn't care about people sending Joel all this money and not receiving anything, because they never printed a word. I feel some people could have been warned. How can this story go untold? There are a lot of honest wrestling fans out there. I have been trading for more than 12 years with lots of different people, and have never once been taken advantage of. I want to thank you and *Chatterbox* editor Georgiann Makropolous for telling the fans the true facts and keep up the great work you both do for wrestling.

-- Gary Howerter
Emmaus, PA

AM: This next comment is not meant as a knock at any other newsletter editors, but I think, with the exception of *The Chatterbox*, we all could have done a better job covering the aftermath of Goodhart's bankruptcy. The same people who supported Goodhart -- the hard-core wrestling fans who love the business -- are the same people that purchase the sheets, and deserved help in discovering what happened to Joel. Makropolous printed a transcript of a phone conversation with Goodhart from February 5 in her February 1992 issue, where he claimed letters would be sent to all fan club members within 10 days asking if they wanted a refund or a copy of a video tape (being sold for \$20) in exchange (tickets were \$25). Makropolous said the letters were never sent.

Dear Alex,

I enjoyed your hard news story on the WWF and the child sex abuse charges in Issue 24. However, I feel you cheapened your article by quoting me in the last paragraph. Most people that read that particular issue of *Arena Report* realize that I made those comments in a satirical context. I made light of my observations of Pat Patterson. Don't get me wrong. I don't feel you misquoted me, but they didn't belong in that article.

-- Ron Lemieux
Arena Report Editor
Lake Mary, FL

AM: I didn't mean to paint you in a bad light, but

I felt your comments regarding Patterson's actions toward adolescent and in-ring WWF employees provided an honest third-person account of a type of sexual harassment. I wasn't aware those comments were meant to be read as satire. Unfortunately, I feel many in the wrestling business (myself included) laughed at charges of homosexual harassment toward WWF employees until it was revealed abuse of adolescents was possibly involved.

Dear Alex,

I have enjoyed all of the newsletters from you I have received to date. However, the Florida minor promotion updates are a little boring, as I haven't heard of any of these wrestlers. Ditto for the Mexican report. I think a "Whatever happened to..." column would be interesting.

The interviews with Barry Orton in Issue 24 was good. If you want to get a more in-depth view of sexual harassment in wrestling, you might want to contact Jim Wilson, who alleges he was blackballed from wrestling by Jim Barnett in Atlanta many years ago, because he did not succumb to Barnett's advances.

Isn't Terry Garvin from the WWF the father of Terry Garvin, the GWF wrestler, and Jimmy Garvin's brother?

-- Blake Dexter Halberg
Atlanta, GA

AM: None of the above mentioned lineages are correct, although when Terry Garvin had long bushy hair, he could pass for Jimmy Garvin's twin. The WWF's Terry Garvin is really named Terry Garvin. The GWF's Terry Garvin is really named Terry Sims. Jimmy Garvin's real names is James Williams, and Ronnie Garvin is Ronald Barnes. Ronnie is Jimmy's step-father.

Advertisements

• Gary Waugh and Dan Adams of Sunflower State Wrestling have a videotape available of the group's debut six-match card taped Jan. 19 in Hoisington, KS, for \$13, including shipping and handling. The group used local talent on the show, and is negotiating with Rip Rodgers and Bobby Jagers for future appearances. Address all inquiries to Waugh at 310 North Oakdale, Salina, KS 67401, or call (913) 823-2079 for more information.

• Gary Langevin of 124 Maple Street, Newport, VT 05855-1418 is looking for copies of WWF Championship Wrestling from 1984-86, all WWF TNT shows, WWF Prime Time and All-American Wrestling shows from 1985-87, several Tri State Wrestling shows, International Wrestling from Montreal, Pro Wrestling This Week and any Bob Luce Hall of Fame Classic shows. Gary also has a list of 600+ tapes in his collection. Write for a list.

Wrestling Returns to Spartanburg; WCW Show Smooth in Oakland

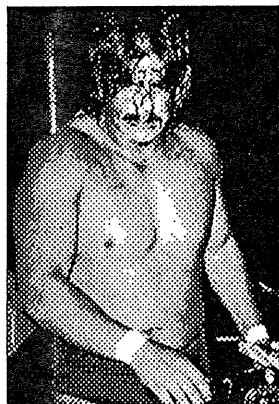
Danny Parris of Spartanburg, S.C., finally had a live card in his home town to report on March 3 when the Global Wrestling Federation ran a show at the Spartanburg Memorial Auditorium before 211 fans. The city's most recent World Championship Wrestling card was in 1989, and the most recent show from any group was the South Atlantic Pro Wrestling group in October 1990. (Editor's note: WCW inquired into doing a television taping last spring in Spartanburg, but the lighting logistics of the building did not allow for it. However, I have no explanation why they just don't run a spot show in the city). This GWF is not related to the one airing on weekdays on ESPN, and is run by Carol Lindsay, although talent from Joe Pedicino's group is used. Results (via the star rating system):

1) Ricky Blue lost to Mad Dog Joe in 3:33. Not very impressive. Blue was a substitute for the no-showing Tim Strong. Grade: *.

2) The next scheduled bout (Secret Admirer vs. The Nightmare) didn't occur either, so Barry Horowitz wrestled Jeff Gaylord instead, winning in 12:45. Gaylord was over huge. Grade: *1/2.

3) Billy Black defeated S.C. Inmate in a two-star match exclusively because of Black and Inmate's manager, Mr. Red, who was stripped to his underwear by Black after the bout.

4) Bambi defeated Peggy Lee Leather in 10:06. The bouts between the two of them are always similar. I like ladies wrestling, but how about a change? (Editor's note: Bambi and Leather are roommates, so it is usually cheaper to pair them than bring in other talent).



Hector Guerrero

5) Hector Guerrero lost to Scott Anthony in a one-star match lasting 14:35. Guerrero has slowed a little, but impressed me with an over-the-top rope body-block onto Anthony, who fell victim to a one-man chant of "Steroids."

6) Tommy Angel, who tried hard, lost to The Nightstalker, who didn't in 7:51. Nightstalker is horrible. Grade: 1/2*.

7) The Patriot (Del Wilkes) beat Stan Lane in 17:37. An OK bout worth *. Jim Cornette was entertaining at ringside, and appears to have lost weight.

8) Blue-Black-Guerrero-Angel-Bambi lost to Inmate-Anthony-Nightstalker-Joe-Leather in 5:02. Grade: No stars.

Notes: Jerry Eagle (ring name Jay Eagle) distributed flyers after the show billing a March 21 card in Inman, SC, with Wahoo McDaniel and midgets scheduled.

Dr. Mike Lano and approximately 2,199 others attended a WCW card March 7 at the Oakland Kaiser Center. Results:

1) Johnny B. Badd pinned Ricky Morton. Badd looked to be off the tanning sauce and almost appears Caucasian. Morton got a ton of heat, while Badd did some nice dives and sold punishment well. A two-star match, but Badd is getting up there in popularity locally with Sting.

2) Marcus Alexander Bagwell defeated "Total Package" Terry Taylor. Taylor showed tons of moves, and sold well. Like Dustin Rhodes, Taylor exhibits great posturing after delivering a dropkick or some other skill-move most others would be clumsy with. MAB was very popular, exhibiting no pretty-boy stuck-upness or moves that accompany similar characters in the past. Grade: **3/4 (Taylor was hot, doing all the Ric Flair moves, although the Ted DiBiase hand-me-downs are beneath him).

3) Cactus Jack and Abdullah the Butcher brawled to a double countout. Cactus warned us beforehand that their hearts weren't in this, because they showed them re-teaming at SuperBrawl II the previous week, but they would try and put that aside and provide the best brawl they could. Cactus attacked Abby prior to the bell and messed up his kendo stick by knocking the shrunk head off. Abby tossed Cactus out of the ring onto the timekeeper table, which broke. The match had the same finish as shows in Los Angeles on March 6 and Fort Hood on March 5. Grade: ***1/4.

4) Barry Windham pinned Larry Zbyszko in a too short "anything goes death match." BW still got in all sorts of great, offense. Madusa jumped on BW's shoulders with a scissors, and BW dumped her for a great bump in her gorgeous sparkly Dynasty-like cocktail dress. She called him a "woman beater" over the P.A. and got a ton of heat.

5) Rick and Scott Steiner-Rhodes defeated Bobby Eaton-Arn Anderson-Steve Austin in an elimination six-man tag match. Dustin and Austin put on a great display before the finish, with Austin taking a vicious bump over the top rope and onto the guard rail. The crowd gasped, totally buying it. Austin and Dustin were counted out while brawling outside, while Scott was DQ'd for tossing Arn over the top rope. Rick then pinned Eaton, and Anderson less than 10 seconds later. Grade: ***3/4.

6) Sting defeated Rick Rude in a steel cage match, Rude and Paul E. Dangerously entered to new theme music. Sting was over like crazy. After the bout, Sting was left laying after a two-on-one attack. Grade: **.

Notes: Prior to the matches, the local press was introduced to new West Coast event coordinator Bob Fox and Head of Sales (gimmicks) Dan Delaney. Both were very nice...WCW returns to San Jose and L.A. in May...There were no no-shows on this card, and everyone worked hard.

Briefly...

(Continued from Page 1)

annually. The dispute was the reason Badd was yanked from the SuperBrawl II pay-per-view show, according to one source.

- **WCW upcoming PPVs:** WCW has scheduled its remaining six pay-per-view shows and two of its three Clash of the Champions for the remainder of the year. PPVs: *Wrestle War* (May 17, Jacksonville); *Beach Battle* (June 20, Mobile); *Baltimore Bash* from Philadelphia (July 12, Philadelphia); *Campus Crush* (Sep. 12 from the University of Colorado in Boulder); *Halloween Havoc* (Oct. 31, Chicago) and *Starrcade* (Dec. 29, Los Angeles). Scheduled Clashes are June 16 in Mobile and September 2 in Tallahassee (tentatively).

- **Clash changes:** Frey said wholesale changes on future Clashes should be expected. "The format will be completely different," Frey said. "It will be like a big show. There will be a reason for the show and every match on it."

- **WCW in New York:** Frey said that WCW is losing its contract at the Meadowlands in New Jersey after its March 31 show, but the group is searching hard for another venue. "We're going to try to make a major comeback," Frey said.

Also, Frey's new wrestler public relations program goes into effect next week. One or two wrestlers will arrive in a city two-to-three days prior to a card, and perform charity functions, like speaking at schools about steroids or visiting hospitals. **Teddy Long** has already been involved in some projects, which will be the subject of a story next issue.

- **Coulter released:** **Wayne Coulter**, WCW's director of media operations, was fired March 12. Coulter and former WCW publicist **Barry Norman** will reportedly be replaced by a current WWF employee experienced in both public relations and marketing.

- **WCW news:** The March 9 *Wrestling Observer Newsletter* reported **Steve Williams** and **Terry Gordy** debuted at a television taping March 9 in Anderson, SC -- sort of. Three matches with the duo were taped, but won't air until May as part of an angle where they are not allowed to wrestle in WCW because of their Japanese commitments. Correspondent **Danny Parris** says the WCW TV taping he attended February 17 in Rock Hill, S.C., was one of the group's best in a long time -- another indication this group may be turning things around.

Crockett released by WCW

(Continued from Page 1)

the match-making decisions of **Dusty Rhodes**.

Rob Garner has been temporarily placed in charge of WCW's event coordinators, and **Jim Barnett**, who booked WCW's buildings before Crockett's appointment, will temporarily resume his old job.

A source close to Crockett said he has a no-compete clause in his contract, which means it is likely WCW will pay him for the remainder of his deal. Those close to Crockett say he was one of the few people in WCW to keep some outlandish angles by Rhodes from happening, and Crockett had realized keeping Rhodes as booker during the late 1980s in Jim Crockett Promotions likely led the company to bankruptcy.

Sheet Spotlight

Here's a look at the top stories of some of the other wrestling newsletters, with subscription information:

- **Dave Meltzer's Wrestling Observer Newsletter** (March 9): Live reports from SuperBrawl II and WCW March 1 show in Chicago; News and analysis of WWF homosexual allegations; Lengthy Japanese and Mexican news segments. (March 16): Excerpts of interviews with Vince McMahon and Billy Jack Haynes; Extensive Japanese, Mexican and WCW news from, as Phil Donahue called it, the *New York Times* of wrestling. *Weekly*; \$1.50 an issue. P.O. Box 1228, Campbell CA 95009-1228.

- **Wade Keller's Pro Wrestling Torch** (March 5): Report and analysis of SuperBrawl II; Eric Krol's column on McMahon as a stale promoter. (March 12): Interview with Jesse Ventura and report on Ventura's problems with KFAN radio; Chris Zavisla story and interview with The Lightning Kid; Detailed report of Jim Cornette's Smokey Mountain Wrestling airing in Chattanooga. *Weekly*; \$1.25 an issue. P.O. Box 201844, Minneapolis MN 55420.

- **Ron Lemieux's Arena Report** (March 9): Live report from ICWA show March 5 in Tampa; Columns on WWF media problems, with one particularly up-lifting by Klon Herron; Extensive Florida independent news. *Bi-weekly*; \$1 an issue. P.O. Box 952547, Lake Mary FL 32795-2547.

- **Mike Sawyer's Legdrop** (March 9): Interview with Bruno Sammartino; News tidbits from WCW, WWF. *Bi-weekly*; \$1 an issue. 831 Pasadena Ave., Niagara Falls, NY 14304.

- **Gary Langevin's On the Mat** (March-April 1992): Feature story on Eddie Gilbert; Xerox of article on WWF trying to help Stamford, Conn., library funding. *Bi-monthly*; \$2 an issue. 124 Maple St., Newport, VT 05855-1418.

- **Vic Stanley's Screw Job Finish** (March 1992): Fictional humor articles covering everything from comparisons between the trials of **Dr. George Zahorian** and **William Kennedy Smith** to McMahon as The Godfather addressing Meltzer and Keller. Yes, it's bizarre. *Quarterly*; \$2.50 an issue. P.O. Box 176, Lafayette, IN 47902-0176.

- **Georgiann Makropoulos's Wrestling Chatterbox** (February 1992): Complete transcript of a February 5 phone interview with **Joel Goodhart**; Xeroxes of *New York Post* and *Village Voice* articles concerning steroids and homosexuality in the WWF, *St. Petersburg Times* **Buzz Sawyer** obituary and interesting pre-WWF newspaper feature on The Nasty Boys. *Monthly*; \$2.50 an issue. 23-44 30th Drive, Astoria, NY 11102-3252.

- **Jeff Mullins' Pro Wrestling Sushi** (March 1992): Loads of humor material ranging from mock stories on death of **Buzz Sawyer** and **Tojo Yamamoto** to **Dusty Rhodes** being linked to the WWF drug search in St. Louis. Also, serious commentary from Mullins and **Stephen Meyerson**. *Monthly*; \$1.50 an issue. P.O. Box 36189, San Jose, CA 95158.

- **John Arezzi's Pro Wrestling Spotlight Weekly** (March 2): Excerpts of radio interview with **Kip Frey**; Interview with **Dominic DeNucci**; Mat Memories of Sammartino-Pedro Morales match. (March 9): **Baron Von Raschke** interview; Video tape review, live and television show results. (March 16): Interview with **Bobo Brazil**. *Weekly*; \$1.50 an issue. 99 Middle Country Road, Coram, NY 11727.

Spotlight on: Billy Jack Haynes

When Billy Jack Haynes was reached via telephone at 1 a.m. EST in Hood River, Ore. on March 12, he had already been subject to the media attention given allegations of homosexual abuses by World Wrestling Federation front-office employees. "Entertainment Tonight was just here 10 minutes ago," Haynes said. "I guess everybody knows about this by now."

Haynes has not only garnered mainstream attention -- something sorely lacking since his WWF stint in 1987 -- but his account of WWF wrong-doings has caught the ear of wrestling insiders. Less than two months earlier, Haynes drove at his own expense to WWF television tapings in Amarillo and Lubbock in hope of obtaining a job. Instead, Haynes claimed he was called to the TV tapings as a practical joke, with the company having no plans of using him.

As revenge, Haynes decided to go public with comments on allegations of WWF steroid use, fraudulent drug testing, homosexual discrimination and WWF owner Vince McMahon Jr.

AM: Are you surprised it took so long for news of homosexual discrimination in the WWF to come out?

BH: I think wrestlers were scared. These guys [the WWF] have a lot of power and a lot of money. Put that together, along with an **Adolf Hitler**, which is what (**Vince McMahon**) is because he wants to control it all, and that's a pretty heavy thing to face. He fucked me one time too many. I've already had two telephone threats since I've spoken publicly, because he knows I can do damage. I'm the last guy he expected to talk.

AM: Really?

BH: I think so. A lot of other guys, like **Randy Savage**, he would be surprised if they talked. But they're not going to.

AM: Could you please talk about your trip to the January 24 WWF television taping in Lubbock and the January 25 show in Amarillo.

BH: To McMahon, it was a practical joke. I went 3,800 miles round trip for this. I got myself back in really good shape. I was going to make one more crack at the business. I left the WWF with heat in 1988 when I left to run my own promotion in Oregon -- the Oregon Wrestling Federation. I got involved with the wrong people, including one guy who embezzled me for \$75,000 to \$80,000. I went bankrupt, and they came after my house, my Mercedes, my truck...you name it. I got divorced...it was a good learning experience (laughs). I can't blame no one but me.

Getting back to Vince, I felt I was in shape and ready to go. I phoned up and asked for a job and kept getting refused. Finally, (former WWF Vice President of Talent) **Pat Patterson** told me to come on down to TV. I asked what I would be working, and he said they would take a look and see what I looked like. I got down to Lubbock, and they didn't even acknowledge my existence. There was a lot of heat and tension backstage, and I knew the shit was going to hit the fan. I didn't say anything at the time, because all I wanted to do was show them what I can do and get my job back. They said I couldn't do anything tonight and to wait until tomorrow in Amarillo.

I went and got there early, and they were having a big meeting because **Marty Janetty** had been arrested for cocaine. It was a really heavy meeting. Vince was yelling at the top of his lungs, "You mother fuckers! Everyone came up dirty on the last test." What guys would do is have a guy they know was clean, piss in a balloon to keep the urine warm. They'll take the urine, pour the warm piss in their cup and turn it over. That's what they had been doing, but the drug testing company finally started getting wise because Vince puts through the test

whomever he wants to put through. But he can't do that anymore because that time has run out and now they have legitimate testing. He said, "I want you guys off this shit now."

After the meeting, Vince walked by me. I called his name three times and he kept going by me. I call Pat over, and he asks me to wait for a minute. I sat for an hour in the hallway, like a jobber waiting for an order. I had my self-esteem taken out when I went bankrupt, and I was just beginning building it back up to go in the business and make some money. I didn't want to work in the WWF, but there was no place else to go. Finally, (WWF road agent) **Chief Jay Strongbow** came out and said he talked to Vince, and he doesn't need me. I just got through driving 1,900 miles. Strongbow then said maybe they could use me on the next TV taping.

I went to open the door to the office where Vince was, but it was locked. I kicked the bottom of the door and screamed, "You mother fucker." The boys understood what I was going through, but I know none of them said anything because they knew they would be fired if they did. **Hercules Hernandez** said, "Hey man, I understand you want to kill them. Don't go to prison. Just forget about it. I just drove 1,900 miles. I didn't even have the money to come down. I got back in the truck, and the devil was telling me to kill him.

They pulled my leg the wrong way, because I am going to expose them. I had no idea what Billy [Graham] and [David] Shults were doing at the time. I never saw it. I was trying to think of how to do it. I was going to do it locally, but Billy phoned me up and said he heard about what was done to me. He must have heard it from one of the boys speaking out. Billy told me he wanted me to tell the truth, that we were going to expose Vince and get him out of here. I know a lot of the shit that went on there. I knew **Dr. George Zahorian** well. When I saw the story breaking, I felt sorry for him.

AM: In my conversation with Zahorian, I felt he came across as a mark just wanting attention from wrestlers to fulfill a childhood fantasy. Do you agree?

BH: No, he was in it for the money. But Vince was the one who set up the guy. Vince should be the one in prison, not Zahorian. He didn't like selling the drugs. He was scared to death to sell the stuff, but I think Vince gave him the promise he would take care of him. I didn't see Vince around during the trial. I didn't see **Hulk Hogan** around. I almost wanted to go to court and testify on his behalf. If there was a retrial, I would testify on Zahorian's behalf. Vince is on the record as being a steroid user. Steroids wasn't the only thing Zahorian was dealing,

either. Valiums, uppers, downers, speed ...

AM: How was your relationship with McMahon prior to you leaving in 1988?

BH: It was never really good. He's just like Adolf Hitler. He wants it all. He seized his dream and did a great job putting it together, but he stepped on too many people. I don't know if he's a fag, but I think he is. He's a little acey-ducey, if you know what I mean. He's in love with the human body, and that's why he wants his wrestlers on 'roids. That's why he didn't want little men. He wanted to be represented by big men. That's why everyone's all gassed up. Vince didn't put the needle in their ass, but he pushed them to it. If you're not big, you don't get a job. What are you gonna do? How can you keep a physique when you're going from New York to Los Angeles, from there to Montreal, then to Texas and Atlanta, with hold-overs and sleeping in hotels? You were just like a zombie while you were on all those drugs. That's why Zahorian was there, to accommodate us, to mellow you out so you wouldn't be bitching. Although I was making money, I can't bitch about that. But I didn't know if things were live or on Memorex. What did Vince do? Go every three weeks to the TV tapings and sit in his office. He didn't see it.

AM: You had some serious health problems a few years back while wrestling in the WWF. Can you talk about that?

BH: I was headed to Miami on a non-stop flight from Detroit. I had busted two fingers and was working 90-something days straight on the road with no time off. I couldn't take any, either, because I was involved in an angle with Hercules and working main events every day. You can't miss a main event, or else you lose your job. So I kept working, but I was taking Tylenol 3 with codeine. I had never taken it before in my life until I busted my fingers. Honestly, it gave me a buzz. I was taking it for two weeks, sometimes two-or-three at a time, and I would buzz out. Then there was only a little pain in my fingers, so I could wrestle.

I was on the 6 a.m. flight out of Detroit, when I started feeling fibrillations of my heart. It wouldn't beat. I was almost passing out next to **Dino Bravo**, who said I looked white as a ghost. I couldn't catch my breath. I called for the stewardess, she asked if I was OK, and I said I couldn't breathe. I got oxygen, but I started hyperventilating. I was trying to fight it because I was so high off the ground and God knew when we were going to land. I thought I was dying. I told Dino what I had done -- take codeine on an empty stomach. The last thing I remember is the plane's emergency landing in Charlotte, N.C. When I got in the hospital, they had all the monitors set up. They said I could either get a pacemaker or undergo shock treatment. I didn't have to think long before saying I wanted the shock treatment. They said it could kill me, but I thought I was going to die anyway. But they also said there was a good chance I would come out of it OK. I signed papers absolving them from the blame, saying that if I died, it wasn't their fault. When I got the treatment, it felt like someone took two shotguns to my head. I felt my molecules fall back together so I knew I was going to live, but I was out for 24 hours. The next day, I called Vince and told him I wanted to stay home for a couple of days. I wasn't even home for one day when Vince said I had to be in L.A. and San Francisco to work these weekend shots. I almost died, man. Vince said after I worked the California dates he would give me a couple of days off. I went there, and the doctor said I shouldn't

be wrestling. I was taking medication, and after the match I almost passed out. After about one week on the West Coast, I felt like I was 90 years old. Vince did give me a couple of days off and my heart went back to normal. I was taking steroids at the time, too. I was afraid maybe they had something to do with my condition, but it didn't. It was a reaction to the codeine. But I quit taking all steroids. I was a minor user, but I took them. Testosterone, deca durabolin. The pills I got were from Zahorian. I haven't touched nothing since I almost died.

I've always been a big guy, and I never really needed to take them, but every one else was taking them and I felt the competition. This guys would take two shots, so another guy would take three. Then this guy would take four. And Vince was loving it, because all these guys were getting huge and drawing money for him. He didn't care how you were deep down inside. You're a puppet on a string in the WWF. Either you can be clipped by McMahon or he can make you dance.

AM: There really weren't too many other places to go and wrestle, were there?

BH: That's thanks that to Vince. He made sure he was going to kill off the little guy. Vince was always saying you make sure the good guy wins at the finish and the bad guy loses. He's got to lose. He cut his own throat. I'm sure he hates the sound of my name now. You're telling the truth and I'm telling the truth. This guy has got what he has coming to him. Zahorian should have went to jail, but people should know the whole concept behind what he had done and why he did it. Vince always has some kind of front guy taking the heat for him.

AM: Can you talk a little bit about the homosexual allegations that have surfaced about WWF front-office employees?

BH: They're true. The only thing that ever happened to me, honestly, was when I was taking a shower. (Former WWF Assistant to the Vice President of Talent) **Terry Garvin** came in and put his hand on my ass. I also think we were trying to put his finger up my asshole. I grabbed him and said, "Look, if you ever touch me again, I will kill you. You better keep walking." And he did.

AM: Do you know anything about these allegations of homosexual advances by WWF front-office employees toward underage ring boys?

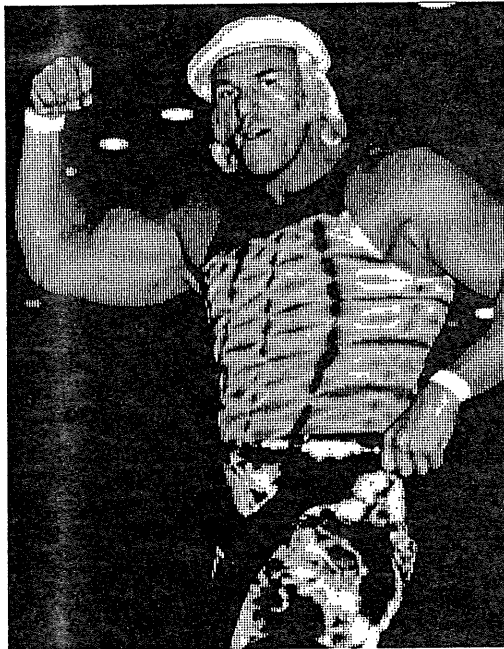
BH: There was this one ring kid named Tom, who one day came up to me with tears in his eyes. I was always nice to everybody, including him, because he was one of those guys that had a harder job than I did and everyone treated him like shit. Tom told me Pat Patterson and Terry Garvin were sexually harassing him. He's a little bit slow mentally, but a good looking kid. They did this to this kid a number of times. I really felt bad, but I couldn't do anything because I wanted to keep my job. I told him to press charges, but he said no. I figured fuck it. I was so burnt out from traveling and work that I look back on it now and know I would have done something.

AM: I understand there was a homosexual incident with a good friend of yours, **Brady Boone**?

BH: Yeah, Brady was wrestling as the **Battle Cat**. He could still press a lawsuit for sexual discrimination. Patterson wanted to poke him in the butt so many times. He even confronted him about it. I don't know if he's going to speak to you about it, because he's still wrestling for All Japan (Pro Wrestling). What can happen is Vince can pay off the right person, so when a wrestler would have you in a front facelock

in the ring, he could break your neck. This way, he can't be sued because it would be an "accident." If the guy he puts in knows what he's doing, he could kill you. That's the scary part about it. It can happen real easy.

Anyway, Brady had a hell of a gimmick and everyone loved it. The next thing you know Patterson confronts Brady and says, "You can make big money, but you've got to be my baby." Brady kept turning them down, though. Finally, Brady hurt his knee and was only going to be out a week or two, and



"Superstar" Billy Graham

they put the gimmick on someone else. They were trying to bait Brady. But Brady is 100 percent man. There's no queer in him at all. Unlike these other guys. Rick Martel, Tony Garea, Steve Lombardi, Patterson. To think Vince goes along with this... That's not even mentioning the

guys who come in from the outside. It's unbelievable. Do you know what the WWF stands for? World Wrestling Faggots.

AM: I understand certain wrestlers are immune to that sort of treatment.

BH: I would say they wouldn't fuck around with guys like Hogan or Savage. I think Savage is the best talent they've got. He's burnt out, but he's made a ton of money and always treated me real good. He was into the gas, too, though. I know because I shot him up the ass. If he denies it, he's a fucking liar because I shot him up with a 2 CC bottle of deca durabolin. I'm putting the hammer down. These people never gave a shit about me after I left. I didn't get one phone call from anybody during my problems. I was suicidal. I don't think I would have done it, but coming back from losing your wife and pets and starting a new life over takes a strong mind. I weathered the storm and got back on my feet, and look what Vince did to me.

AM: I guess with steroids gaining more and more attention, WWF wrestlers wouldn't be shooting themselves up in the arena locker room anymore, would they?

BH: They pretty much have stopped that. Before, there were syringes everywhere. It was so stupid, because the road agents didn't even clean up the stuff. The janitors could see in the trash cans all the needles. They didn't give a shit. If Vince knew about that, he would have went through the roof, because he doesn't want people to know about it. It was pretty common.

AM: A question that I've wondered about for years -

- what happened with your falling out with Don Owens' Big Time Wrestling in Oregon in 1985?

BH: Everything was fine with Don and I for a long time. I wrestled Ric Flair there in the Memorial Coliseum in Portland, and they had the largest crowd of all-time for the building. It even outdrew the (Portland) Trailblazers, with 13,200 fans. They got the seats right up to the ring. That was great.

Two months later, I was going to wrestle Flair again, only with (former Trailblazers center) Michael Thompson handcuffed to Rip Oliver at ringside. We started hyping this thing up, and people were buying it. We were going to sell out again. Thompson asked me what he was going to get paid, and I asked him what he thought he deserved. He said \$5,000, and he said he didn't want to do it for less than \$5,000 because he had an \$800,000 contract and otherwise it just wasn't worth it. He was a friend of mine, so I went into Don's office with Michael. I told Don I didn't care what he paid me, but Michael wants a guarantee of \$5,000, and I think it's worth it. He got up and screamed, "Five thousand dollars? There's not a nigger in the world that's worth \$5,000." He said that right in front of Michael, so I said I would never work there again. I told him, "You don't ever do that to a friend of mine, you prejudiced mother fucker." It's the same mold you see with blacks in the WWF, with Virgil, Butch Reed bleaching his hair, Tony Atlas as Sama Simba, etc. He's making fun of blacks. I think that's another thing that should be brought down by the NAACP.

AM: So why did you return to Portland in 1990?

BH: I needed the money. I was living at home, and it was an easy shot for me to make. Don wanted me to come back because I could draw money. He wanted to turn me heel, because he was afraid I would run another promotion against him again if I became too popular. I was a good heel and the money was OK. I felt bad because I turned away from the fans, and because they love you no matter what, because they're so dedicated. It was hard, but I made \$400-\$500 a week for three dates and was putting food in my mouth.

AM: I guess that's where Vince's virtual monopolization of wrestling really hurts -- when you need a job with a smaller promotion?

BH: He's hurt the business very much. He's made a big cartoon out of us. You get the impression we're totally cartoonish. We're professional stuntman. We're good stuntman. You get paid top money when the guy sitting at ringside says, "Wow, he's really hurt." That's the difference between some guy who's bad, because he makes fans say, "Look how fake he is." Portland is now bush league, with a bunch of old timers going through the motions. WCW is the best by far, because it turned its back from what Vince has done.

AM: You were recently in WCW as Black Blood. Why did you leave?

BH: I blew my knee out, and I didn't get along with (Former WCW Executive Vice President) Jim Herd. He didn't know a headlock from a hammerlock, and I told him that directly to his face. He said, "Well, maybe you're right." I blew my knee out, and I wanted to get paid for it. They paid me for it and there was no squabble. Also the gimmick wasn't very good. I have no one to blame but myself, because it was my idea. I just thought fans wouldn't care about Billy Jack anymore. But WCW is starting to turn things around. They're doing more realistic things.

Sex Scandal Gets Media Attention

(Continued from Page 5)

year-long selection process by which he was hired, how McMahon signed him to a two-year contract and one WWF employee sent a letter to Hodgson's landlord claiming he was an outstanding employee and had a job for years to come. McMahon then claimed he offered Hodgson a \$160,000 settlement (which, from all accounts, is a lie) and asked why he waited to file his lawsuit for so long. Hodgson explained such an offer was never made, the WWF was served with an intent to sue paper September 14 and the delay in filing was because the WWF was attempting to pay him off. McMahon clearly lost the debate, and Hodgson likely stands to make a lot of money.

The remaining 40 minutes were spent with all the guests discussing their stories. McMahon took a beating again, but the wrestlers came across very rough as compared to the WWF guru's smooth speaking style. McMahon admitted there was a possibility harassment existed in the WWF (something he did not do on Larry King's show). Graham, who was the most vocal of the guests, said he saw former WWF ring announcer **Mel Phillips** fondling a 10-year-old boy in 1982 and confirmed he heard of the incident Sammartino referred to on Larry King's show, where Phillips was caught having sex with a 10-year-old boy in the parking lot of a Pennsylvania arena around 1980. Meltzer was the only participant who obviously wasn't anti-McMahon, but largely neutral. Sammartino's delivery drastically improved from the King show, as did Orton's. But by the end of the show, the audience had switched to McMahon's side. One of the main points brought up by members of the audience was that why didn't wrestlers call the authorities during all this time if they knew something illegal like that was going on. Instead of admitting they were wrong, the wrestlers instead tried to explain how they would have been blackballed from the business by doing so (which is likely, but wasn't an acceptable answer to most there). One WWF-planted audience member asked about Orton's time in prison and Sammartino's son using steroids. Again, no knock out punch landed. Meltzer said he was the only one to talk to Vince during commercial breaks or prior to the show. Hodgson confronted McMahon after the show and laughed at him.

Aftermath: The allegations will likely fade away, thanks to some clever maneuvering by the WWF. Cole is no longer threatening a lawsuit, and will rejoin the WWF as a ringboy. Cole, who wasn't pressing charges for financial gain, will receive a reported \$70,000 in back pay and will sign a three-year, no-cut contract. Cole, who is slightly mentally deficient, apparently just wants to be close to the wrestlers again. Without Cole, **Sally Jesse Rafael's** planned story was stopped, although **Geraldo Rivera's** *Now It Can Be Told* is still planning to go ahead with its story. If anything, it is unlikely any sort of sexual harassment will ever take place openly in the WWF again.

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